



THE SCAM

J.T.C.

Frank, you'll love our car. We've only driven it for four months.

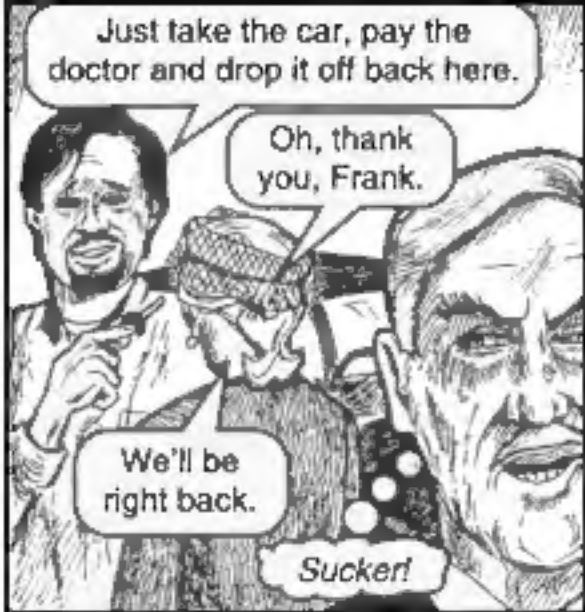
Yes! Because my doctor will sue if we don't make our final payment today.

I hate to give it up, but we're desperate.

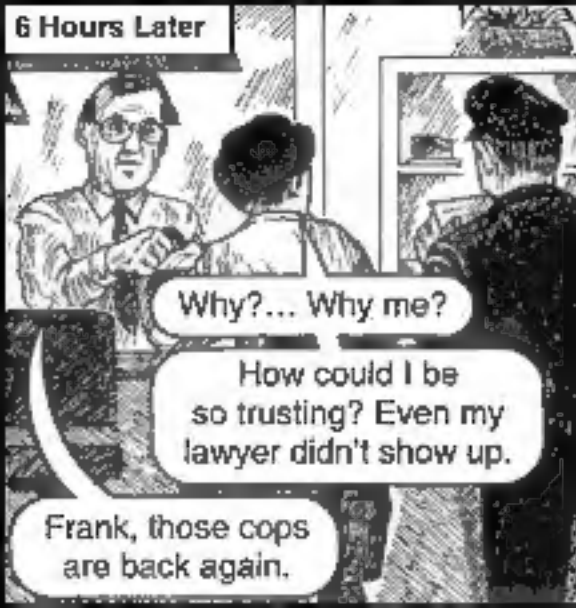
If you could help us right now, we'd be ever so grateful. (sob)

All you want is \$500?

Boy, what a deal!



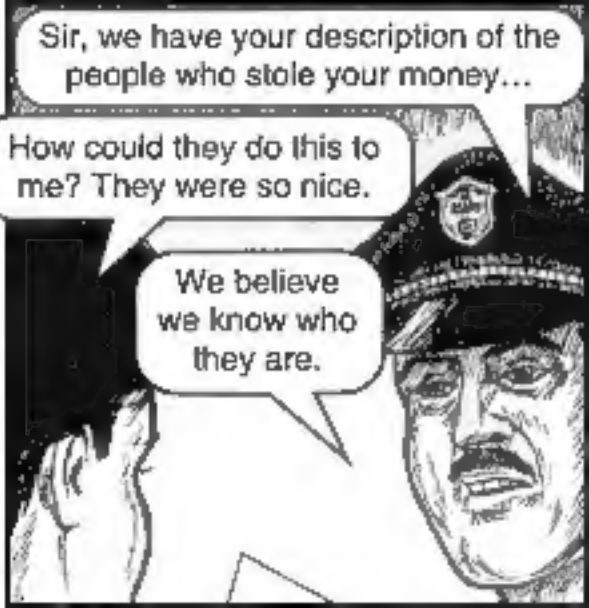
6 Hours Later

A black and white comic panel showing a man in a suit and glasses talking to a police officer. The man is looking at the officer with a questioning expression. The officer is seen from the back, wearing a uniform and cap.

Why?... Why me?

How could I be so trusting? Even my lawyer didn't show up.

Frank, those cops are back again.

A black and white comic panel showing a close-up of a police officer's face. He is wearing a cap with a badge and has a serious expression. He is speaking to someone off-camera.

Sir, we have your description of the people who stole your money...

How could they do this to me? They were so nice.

We believe we know who they are.

This is "Slick Willy" and "Mean Molly," wanted in five states. If it's *these* two, you've been *scammed* by the best.



Yes, yes! That's them. I'm sick!

Now I'm broke. How could I have been so stupid?



Excuse me, I'm Bob! Mind if I buy you dinner? I heard what happened to you.

That'd be great. I'm really worn out. Thanks!

I know of another guy who was conned just like you!

Bob, I didn't realize I was so hungry.
Now, what did you want to tell me?

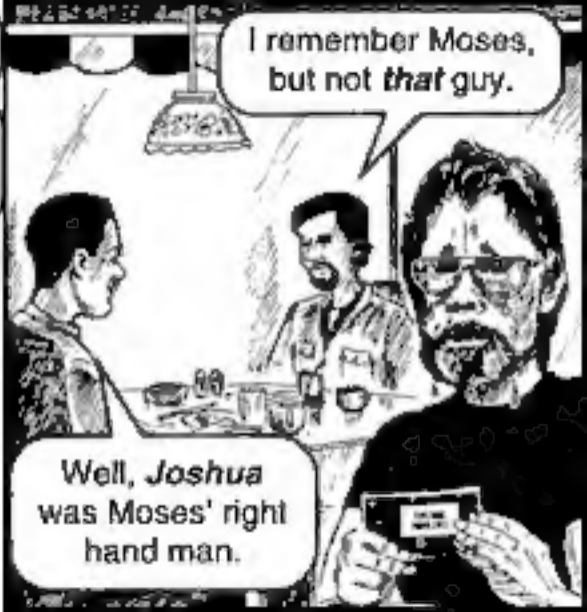
Did you ever hear of a
guy in the Bible named
Joshua?

Fang,
stop it!



I remember Moses,
but not *that* guy.

Well, *Joshua*
was Moses' right
hand man.



Moses led the Israelites out of Egypt... and when he died, Joshua replaced him.



The Israelites had spent 40 years in the desert with God. There were about 3 million people involved.

As they approached the Promised Land, God told Joshua to destroy the wicked people who were there.



Joshua was God's man and a general. Could somebody like Joshua ever be conned? Yes! *Big time!*

How in the *world* did Joshua get conned?

Let me give you some background... When the Israelites crossed into this new land, God gave Joshua orders to...

Destroy the city of Jericho and take **nothing** from it. And Joshua obeyed. They had a glorious victory. The cities around Jericho were terrified.



But one of Joshua's soldiers sinned against God. He secretly stole silver, gold and a Babylonian garment. God turned His face from Israel.

Because of one man's sin, God stopped helping Israel. The small town of Ai was their next target.



They thought they could win with just a few soldiers. But it turned into a disaster.

Joshua's soldiers were defeated and ran away. 36 were killed.



Oh, man! Did God tell Joshua *why* He didn't help them?

God told Joshua that they lost because there was sin in the camp! The thief confessed and was executed.



When they attacked Ai again, they were victorious! Joshua had learned a great lesson. (See Joshua, chap. 7.)

Gibeon was next to be attacked. They didn't stand a chance against Joshua unless they could come up with a scam to save their necks.



They had a powerful army and a stronger city than Ai, but they knew Joshua's God would destroy them.

Land and animals must not
be have anything to do with
the people of the land



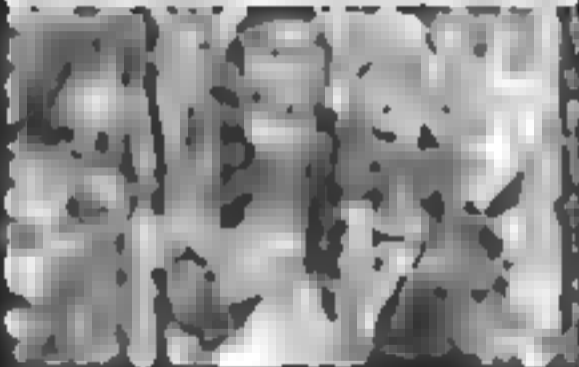
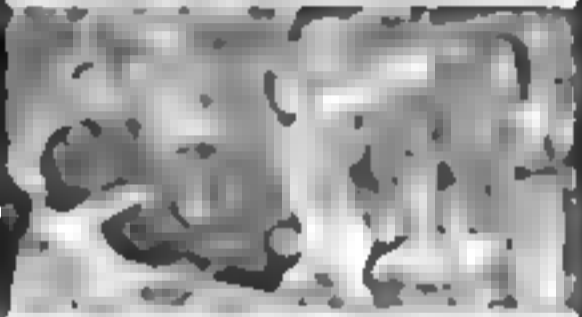
because they had polluted it with their
horrible sins. He must destroy them
and make no deals whatsoever

It was over the hill the
Contributors were busy

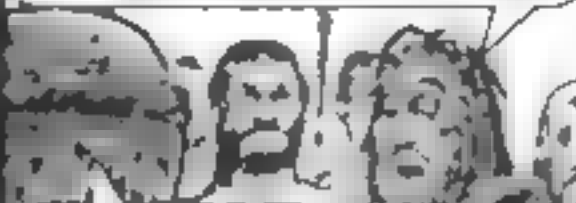


setting up the biggest con job
in Israel's history

been ambas



You can't do it a very far
because it's not a very far



What do you
think about it
I think it's
a very far

You can't do it a very far
because it's not a very far


You can't do it a very far
because it's not a very far

You can't do it a very far
because it's not a very far




You can't do it a very far
because it's not a very far

"And the men took of their victuals (provisions) and asked not counsel at the mouth of the LORD" Joshua 9:14




Since you're not from here, you may live



We gotcha

All the princes of the congregation also swore before the God of Israel not to kill the Gibeonites.

Nobody realized they had been conned?



No, it was Joshua's worst mistake.

He had forgotten to ask God for advice before he signed the treaty

So, when did they find out?





How did **Satan** get into this story?

Satan was behind the Gibeonites scheme, just like he was behind the old couple who conned you out of your \$500 Frank. Satan is the **daddy** of all con men!

For he the devil is a liar and he father of lies
John 8:44b



Will the old couple go to *hell* for what they did to me?

No they're going to *hell* because of what they *didn't* do

What did they do?

They didn't get their sins forgiven


Nothing unclean can enter heaven
Frank

But Bob I'm no angel myself
Uh Am I in trouble with God?

Frank you have no idea of the trouble you're in

You're going to join them in the lake of fire for a eternity unless you give your heart to Christ!

What?
What are you talking about?




Hasn't anyone ever talked to you about the Gospel?

I guess so but I didn't listen.

You mean you haven't heard what God did for you?

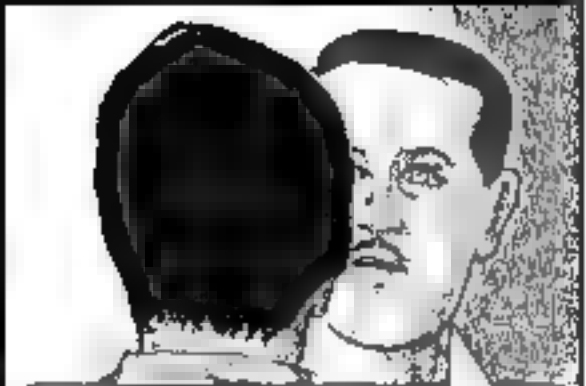
Naw, not really! It went in one ear and out the other.




The devil hates a people Frank and he's blinded us to the fact that we're all lost!

He doesn't want you to hear this, so listen carefully.

the god of this world hath blinded the minds of them which believe not lest they should see the glorious gospel of Christ which should enlighten them. 2 Cor 4:4



Since all people have sinned, including *you*, Frank. God the Father in heaven sent His Son, the Lord Jesus Christ, to this world to save you from going to hell.



The world doesn't even *realize* how important Jesus Christ is and the horrible price He paid to get us into heaven.

I'm still in the dark. So *tell* me about it.

The Lord Jesus was beaten, suffered and died on a cross to pay for the sins of all mankind, including yours.

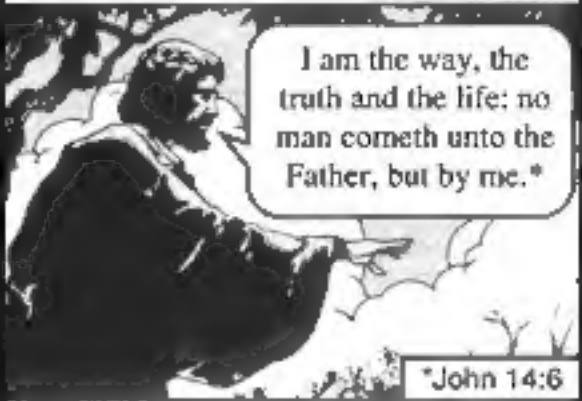


“For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.” John 3:16

3 days later He arose from the dead.

If you believe in Him and put your trust in Him, your sins will be forgiven and you *will* go to heaven.


There is absolutely no other way you can get to heaven. Jesus said:



I am the way, the truth and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.*

*John 14:6

And this is no scam! It's either Jesus as your Lord or the lake of fire.



OK! I see it now, Bob. How do I pray?

Ask Jesus to save you and receive Him as your Lord and Saviour.

OK!... Here I go. Dear Lord...

15 minutes later

We caught them,
found the car and
here's your 500
bucks.

This is the *greatest*
day of my life!

**Don't let Satan con you out
of eternal life in heaven.**

Give yourself completely to Jesus
as your personal Saviour and the
Lord of your life. *Right now!*

Go to Him with your problems
and questions... *remember
what happened to Joshua?*

The Word of God says: "And call
upon me in the day of trouble: I
will deliver thee, and thou shalt
glorify me."
Psalm 50:15

THE BIBLE SAYS THERE'S ONLY ONE WAY TO HEAVEN!

Jesus said, "I am the way, the truth, and the life; no man cometh unto the Father, but by me." John 14:6

NOBODY ELSE CAN SAVE YOU. TRUST JESUS TODAY!

"That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved." Rom. 10:9

1. Admit you are a sinner. See Romans 3:10
2. Be willing to turn from sin (repent). See Acts 17:30
3. Believe that Jesus Christ died for you, was buried and rose from the dead. See Rom. 10:9-10
4. Through prayer, invite Jesus into your heart to become your personal Saviour. See Rom. 10:13

WHAT TO PRAY

Dear God, I am a sinner and need forgiveness. I believe that Jesus Christ shed His precious blood and died for my sin. I am willing to turn from sin. I now invite Christ to come into my heart as my personal Saviour.

If you trusted Jesus as your Saviour, you have just begun a wonderful new life with Him. Now:

1. Read your Bible (KJV) every day to get to know Jesus Christ better.
2. Talk to God in prayer every day.
3. Be baptized, worship, fellowship, and serve with other Christians in a church where Christ is preached and the Bible is the final authority.
4. Tell others about Jesus Christ.

Here's help to grow as a new Christian! Read *The Next Step*, available at www.chick.com.

